

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) A manufacturing method for making a conduction assist member having a plurality of conduction members disposed in a plurality of through holes formed in an insulating elastic sheet, comprising the steps of:

a first step of forming a plurality of through holes in each of two films comprising an insulating elastic material at locations corresponding to each other, each of said through holes extending through each of said films from a first opening to an opposed second opening;

a second step of forming, from a conductive material, a structure comprising a plurality of cut pieces linked to one another in a linear manner, each of said cut pieces having at least one cut defining at least two blades;

a third step of disposing said structure between said two films so that each of said cut pieces is disposed in a respective one of said through holes and bringing said films together into thermal press contact to form a sheet; and

a fourth step of cutting said cut pieces from one another and bending at least one of said at least two blades toward said first opening portion of a respective one of said through holes so that an end portion of said at least one blade protrudes from said first opening portion on the same surface of said sheet.

10. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing method of claim 9, wherein said cut pieces are cut from one another by punching said sheet and said blades are bent by punching.

11-12. (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing method of claim 9, wherein at least another one of said at least two blades is bent, at said fourth step, toward said second opening portion of a respective one of said through holes in a direction substantially opposing the direction in which said at least one blade is bent.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing method of claim 9, wherein each of said cut pieces comprises two blades formed by a single cut.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing method of claim 9, wherein said first and second opening portions of said through holes are formed in a circular shape having a diameter in a range of 0.2 to 1.2 mm.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing method of claim 9, wherein a pitch of said through holes is in a range of 0.25 to 1.5 mm.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing method of claim 9, wherein said conductive material comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of beryllium copper, titanium copper, copper-nickel-tin alloy, phosphor bronze and copper-nickel silicon alloy.

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Previously Presented) The manufacturing method of claim 9, wherein said insulating elastic material comprises rubber or resin.

24-26. (Cancelled).